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Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 93-94.
The listing of claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-91. (canceled).

92. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion protein capable of binding vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), ~~comprising~~ consisting of

(a) a ~~vascular endothelial growth factor (~~VEGF~~)~~ receptor component having immunoglobulin-like (Ig) domains consisting of an Ig domain 2 of a first VEGF receptor human Flt1 and Ig domain 3 of a second VEGF receptor human Flk1; and

(b) a multimerizing component.

93-94. (canceled)

95. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 92, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding a first VEGF receptor component is upstream of the nucleotide sequence encoding a second VEGF receptor component.

96. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 92, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding a first VEGF receptor component is downstream of the nucleotide sequence encoding a second VEGF receptor component.

97. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 92, wherein the multimerizing component comprises an immunoglobulin domain.

98. (previously amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 97, wherein the immunoglobulin domain is selected from the group consisting of the Fc domain of IgG, and the heavy chain of IgG.

99. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 92, comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from:

(a) SEQ ID NO~~s:3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, or~~ 15; and

(b) nucleic acid sequences which, as a result of the degeneracy of the genetic code, differ from the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO~~s:3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, or~~ 15.

100. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 92, wherein the components of the fusion polypeptide are arranged as 1,2,3; 1,3,2; 2,1,3; 2,3,1; 3,1,2; or 3,2,1, wherein 1 is the first VEGF receptor component, 2 is the second VEGF receptor component, and 3 is the multimerizing component.

101-103. (canceled)

104. (currently amended) An expression vector comprising ~~the~~ a nucleic acid molecule ~~of claim 92~~ encoding a fusion protein capable of binding vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), wherein the fusion protein consists of immunoglobulin-like (Ig) domain 2 of VEGF receptor human Flt1, Ig domain 3 of VEGF receptor human Flk1, and a multimerizing component.

105. (currently amended) A host-vector system for the production of a fusion polypeptide comprising ~~the~~ an expression vector ~~of claim 104~~ encoding a fusion protein capable of binding vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), wherein the fusion protein consists of immunoglobulin-like (Ig) domain 2 of VEGF receptor human Flt1, Ig domain 3 of VEGF receptor human Flk1, and a multimerizing component, in a suitable host cell.

106. (previously presented) The host-vector system of claim 105, wherein the host cell is a bacterial cell, yeast cell, insect cell, or mammalian cell.

107. (previously presented) The host-vector system of claim 106, wherein the host cell is selected from the group consisting of *E. coli* and CHO.

108. (previously presented) A method of producing a fusion polypeptide, comprising growing cells of the host-vector system of claim 105, under conditions permitting production of the fusion polypeptide and recovering the fusion polypeptide so produced.

109-131. (canceled)

132. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, consisting of:

a nucleotide sequence encoding immunoglobulin-like (Ig) domain 2 of a first vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) receptor upstream of a nucleotide sequence encoding Ig domain 3 of a second VEGF receptor and a nucleotide sequence encoding a multimerizing component, wherein the first and second VEGF receptors are each from a different human VEGF receptor protein and wherein the encoded protein is capable of binding VEGF.

133. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 132, wherein the first VEGF receptor is ~~chosen from~~ Flt-1.

134. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 132, wherein the second VEGF receptor is chosen from Flk-1 and Flt-4.

135. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 132, wherein the multimerizing component is chosen from the Fc domain of IgG and the heavy chain of IgG.

136. (currently amended) ~~The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 132 which is~~ An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence encoding immunoglobulin-like (Ig) domain 2 of a first vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) receptor upstream of a nucleotide sequence encoding Ig domain 3 of a second VEGF receptor and a nucleotide sequence encoding a multimerizing component, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is SEQ ID NO:15.

137. (allowed) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which is the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:15.

138. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 137 encoding a fusion protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:16.